

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 707

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to applaud Floyd Shechter for being honored at the Star Spangled Salute and for his laudable service to the citizens of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is always pleased to offer commendation to those citizens who have shown themselves to possess great generosity and a spirit of altruism; and

WHEREAS, Floyd Shechter is most assuredly one such superlative individual deserving of special recognition; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2004, Mr. Shechter will be one of five individuals (known as the "Fabulous Five") honored by the Donelson-Hermitage Chamber of Commerce at the Star Spangled Salute; this annual fundraising event benefits the Donelson Station Senior Citizens Center, an organization dedicated to serving persons 55 years of age and older by providing group and individual activities and services to support independent lifestyles and to foster dignity and self-worth among senior citizens; and

WHEREAS, a 1976 graduate of Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, Mr. Shechter earned his Bachelor of Arts degree and then continued his education at Washington University by earning his Juris Doctor degree in 1979; he has completed postgraduate training at the American Institute of Banking and the Costa Institute of Real Estate Finance at the Edwin Cox School of Business at Southern Methodist University; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shechter practiced law in St. Louis from 1979 to 1985 and worked in commercial banking in Texas and Tennessee from 1985 to 1992; and

WHEREAS, he currently serves as President of SmartSpace, Inc., a Nashville company, formed in January 1993, that is involved in the acquisition, construction, disposition, financing, leasing, and ownership of commercial real estate; and

WHEREAS, the company owns, leases, and operates 550,000 square feet of office space in the Donelson area and is known in Nashville for the acquisition and conversion of the former Donelson Hospital campus into Donelson Corporate Centre; recently the company has completed the process of converting the former Factory Stores of America outlet mall in Donelson from retail to office space; since 1996, SmartSpace has raised and invested over \$25 million in equity capital and has placed in excess of \$30 million of debt capital in commercial real estate projects in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, under Mr. Shecters's leadership, SmartSpace, Inc. is a member of the Building Owners and Managers Association, the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Donelson-Hermitage Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded in his profession, Mr. Shechter was a participant in the Leadership Donelson-Hermitage Class of 2000 and in the Leadership Nashville Class of 2002-2003; he has served on the U.S. Bank Advisory Board of Directors for the State of Tennessee and he has been honored as the "2002 Businessman of the Year" in Donelson-Hermitage; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his professional success, Mr. Shechter is an active and esteemed member of the Donelson community, serving on the Board of Directors of the Donelson-Hermitage Chamber of Commerce for the 2002-2005 term and serving as the Co-Chair of the Economic Development Committee for 2003; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shechter has also found time to lend his talents to other worthy causes; he currently serves as the President and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Jewish Federation of Nashville, an umbrella fundraising agency for Jewish social service charities, and has served as the Chair of its Budget and Planning Committee; and

WHEREAS, Floyd Shechter epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean, and this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud him for his dedication to his chosen profession, his community, and the state of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Mr. Floyd Shechter on his dedication to living a

life of altruism and generosity and applaud him on being selected as an honoree at this year's Star Spangled Salute. We extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy